

DETAILED ACTION

- Response to the applicant's amendment dated 6/22/2009
- Claims 1-5, 16 and 17 have been Cancelled
- Amended claims 6-15 and 18-23 have been submitted for examination
- Claims 6-15 and 18-23 are allowed

Specification

1. In view of the applicant's amended abstract filed on 6/22/2009, all objections to the specification are withdrawn.

Claim Objections

2. In view of the applicant's amended claims 12 and 13 filed on 6/22/2009, all objections to the claims are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. In view of the applicant's cancelled claim 17, the objection to the claim rejections under section **35 USC § 101** is moot.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record attached to this office. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be

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filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

4. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Aslan Ettehdieh on 10/23/2009.
5. Add the label "CONVENTIONAL ART" to figures 6-11.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments, see pages 14 and 15, filed on 6/22/2009, with respect to claims 6-15 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejections of claims 6-15 under section 35 USC 102(e) has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 6-15 and 18-23 are allowed.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

8. The independent claims 6- 15 of the present application teaches several embodiments of switching between Normal ACK and BLOCK ACK schemes by a receiving station for example, claim 6 teaches:

A receiving station in compliance with a communications method capable of switching between a NormalAck scheme that includes an acknowledgement for a single frame in one frame and a BlockAck scheme that

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includes an acknowledgement for a plurality of frames in one frame in the receiving station returning an Acknowledgement for a received data frame, the receiving station comprising:

a resource; and

a controller controlling the resource to release when the receiving station receives a message to terminate the BlockAck scheme from a transmitting station, wherein:

the receiving station, if not having received a data frame requesting the BlockAck scheme within a predetermined period regardless of whether the receiving station has or has not received a data frame requesting the NormalAck scheme, regards use of the BlockAck scheme as having been terminated and releasesing resource being used for the BlockAck scheme.

The foregoing limitations are not found in the prior art of record.

Particularly, none of the prior arts of record teach nor fairly suggest the emphasized limitation as cited in the independent claim 15 that comprise:

the receiving station, if not having received a data frame requesting the BlockAck scheme (or BLOCKACK request) within a predetermined period regardless of whether the receiving station has or has not received a data frame requesting the

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NormalAck scheme, regards use of the BlockAck scheme as having been terminated and releasesing resource being used for the BlockAck scheme.

9. Claims 7 – 11 have similar language as per claim 6.
10. The independent claims 12-15 of the present application teaches several embodiments of switching between Normal ACK and BLOCK ACK schemes by a receiving station for example, claim 12 teaches:

A communications method switching between a NormalAck scheme that includes an acknowledgement for a single frame in one frame and a BlockAck scheme that includes an acknowledgement for a plurality of frames in one frame, said communications method comprising;

releasing a resource when a message to terminate the BlockAck scheme is received, wherein:

a receiving station of a stream of a traffic identifier, if not having received a Quality of Service (QoS) data frame including an Acknowledgement Policy field containing information indicating a-the BlockAck within the period of BlockAck Timeout regardless of whether the receiving station has or has not received a QoS data frame including an Acknowledgement Policy field containing information indicating a-the NormalAck, regards use of BlockAck scheme as having been terminated, and releasesing resource being used for transmission of the BlockAck.

The foregoing limitations are not found in the prior art of record.

Particularly, none of the prior arts of record teach nor fairly suggest the emphasized limitation as cited in the independent claim 15 that comprise:

a receiving station of a stream of a traffic identifier, if not having received a Quality of Service (QoS) data frame including an Acknowledgement Policy field containing information indicating a-the BlockAck within the period of BlockAck Timeout regardless of whether the receiving station has or has not received a QoS data frame including an Acknowledgement Policy field containing information indicating a-the NormalAck, regards use of BlockAck scheme as having been terminated, and releasesing resource being used for transmission of the BlockAck.

11. Claim 18 depend from claim 7.
12. Claim 19 depend from claim 9.
13. Claim 20 depend from claim 11.
14. Claim 21 depend from claim 12.
15. Claim 22 depend from claim 13.
16. Claim 23 depend from claim 14.
17. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sam Rizk whose telephone number is (571) 272-8191. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Scott Baderman can be reached on (571) 272-3644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronics Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free)

/Sam Rizk/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2112